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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/017,530	12/13/2001	Wayne C. Hom	2090.303	8165

7590

10/07/2003

Levin and Hawes, LLP.
Suite 13
385 Forest Ave.
Laguna Beach, CA 92652

EXAMINER

TRAN, QUOC DUC

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2643

DATE MAILED: 10/07/2003

2

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/017,530

Applicant(s)

HOM, WAYNE C.

Examiner

Quoc D Tran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 December 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because Fig. 1 and 2 lack descriptive legends of each major element. For example: numeral 29 should be label as “communication terminal”; 25 should be labeled as “entryway”; 33 should be labeled as “telephone line”; and etc. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Leshner (3,917,911).

Consider claim 10, Leshner teaches a method for secure communication by an occupant of a restricted area with a person at a gate entry apparatus of the restricted area (abstract), the method of communicating comprising the steps of: a) establishing a voice communication link between a location of an occupant of the secure area with a gate entry apparatus so that a person at said gate entry apparatus can establish a voice link with the occupant (see col. 3 line 61 – col. 4 line 10); and b) responding by the occupant to a call from a person at the gate by selecting one of the responses from the following group: *communicating in the normal voice of the occupant*, modifying the voice of the occupant in responding and responding with a recorded message (see col. 4 lines 7-9).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-8 and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lesher (3,917,911) in view of Kohen et al (4,823,380).

Consider claim 1, Lesher teaches an audio security system for a barrier entry communication system (Fig. 1) comprising: a) a movable security barrier that limits access to a restricted area to persons having appropriate authorization to enter the secured area (see Fig. 1, numeral 24); b) a barrier security apparatus operable to open said security barrier on activation after appropriate authorization (see Fig. 1, numeral 20); c) a first voice communication device located at said security barrier and whereby an individual at said security barrier desiring access to the restricted area can contact a location capable of granting authorization to enter the restricted area through said barrier (see Fig. 1, numeral 22); d) a second voice communication device at a location within said restricted access area capable of granting authorization to enter, operatively connected to said first voice communication device (see Fig. 1, numeral 28).

Lesher teaches a tone generator 32 for generating a tone to activate authorization access. Lesher failed to teach a voice modification mechanism available to said second voice communication device whereby a person at said second communication device when answering a call from said first voice communication device can modify the audio characteristics of a response for security purposes. However, Kohen et al teach a voice changer for use or integrated

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with a telephone for modifying the voice of the occupant (i.e., person at 2nd communication device) to a desired voice such as a male voice (see col. 1 lines 9-29; col. 3 lines 31-42; col. 4 lines 44-53).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Kohen et al into view of Leshner in order to increase security.

Consider claim 2, Leshner teaches the system wherein the second communication device is a telephone connected to a public telephone system (col. 3 line 62 – col. 4 line 6).

Consider claim 3, Leshner teaches the system wherein said telephone connects into a public telephone system through said security system (Fig. 1; col. 3 lines 55 – col. 4 line 6).

Consider claim 4, Kohen et al teach the system wherein modification of the audio characteristics with said modification mechanisms involves playing a recorded message on receipt of a call by said second voice communication device from said first voice communication device (col. 4 lines 8-14, lines 35-43).

Consider claim 5, Kohen et al teach the system wherein modification of the audio characteristics with said modification mechanism involves changing the tonal qualities of the person speaking on said second communication device to make it appear that the person speaking is an adult (col. 3 lines 31-42).

Consider claim 6, Kohen et al teach the system wherein modification of the audio characteristics with said modification mechanism involves changing the tonal qualities of the person speaking on said second communication device to make it appear that the person speaking is an adult male (col. 3 lines 31-42).

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Consider claim 7, Leshar teaches the system wherein said barrier is a door (see Fig. 1).

Consider claim 8, Leshar teaches the system wherein said barrier is a gate (col. 1 lines 10-14).

Consider claim 11, Leshar failed to teach the method wherein the step of modifying the voice of the occupant responding comprises the step of modifying it so that the voice of a child sounds like an adult to the person arriving at the gate. However, Kohen et al teach a voice changer for use or integrated with a telephone for modifying the voice of the occupant (i.e., person at 2nd communication device) to a desired voice such as a male voice (see col. 1 lines 9-29; col. 3 lines 31-42; col. 4 lines 44-53). It should be noted that Kohen et al did not mention of a "child voice". However, one skill in the art would recognize that it would have been obvious to include such since children are usually like to answer telephone. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Kohen et al into view of Leshar in order to increase security.

Consider claim 12, Leshar failed to teach wherein the step of modifying the voice of the occupant responding comprises the step of modifying it so that the voices of a child or female sounds like an adult male to the person arriving at the gate. However, Kohen et al teach a voice changer for use or integrated with a telephone for modifying the voice of the occupant (i.e., person at 2nd communication device) to a desired voice such as a male voice (see col. 1 lines 9-29; col. 3 lines 31-42; col. 4 lines 44-53). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Kohen et al into view of Leshar in order to increase security.

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6. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leshner (3,917,911) in view of Kohen et al (4,823,380) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of McNab et al (4,937,855).

Consider claim 9, Leshner and Kohen et al did not suggest the system wherein a video image of a person calling from said first communication device is provided to a person using said second communication device. However, McNab et al teach an integrated security system having telephone line and a video camera for use with building entrance (see Fig. 2). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the teaching of McNab et al into view of Leshner and Kohen et al in order to provide extra security by allow viewing actual image of the caller that is seeking entry.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

8. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile responses should be faxed to:

(703) 872-9314

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive

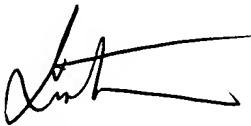
Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist)

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Quoc Tran** whose telephone number is **(703) 306-5643**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00 to 6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Curtis Kuntz**, can be reached on **(703) 305-4708**.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the **Technology Center 2600** whose telephone number is **(703) 306-0377**.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Quoc D. Tran', with a stylized, elongated horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Quoc D. Tran
Patent Examiner AU 2643
September 29, 2003